

Manufacturing plant expands to Anaconda

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EDITOR

Ron Ueland announced Tuesday he is moving his business, Intercontinental Truck Body (ITB) and its fabrication and machine shop from Conrad to the Arbiter Plant east of Anaconda. The move is expected to create 11 new jobs.

"I'm excited about being in Anaconda," he told the commission at their work session Tuesday night. "We will have 25 to 30 people working in Anaconda."

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County

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Chief Executive Bill Everett thanked Ueland for moving his business to Anaconda.

"This will provide great paying jobs - enough to raise families on," he said. "The red tape [involved in the development of Anaconda] is coming down. This is one of three major companies coming to Anaconda in the next six months."

ITB manufactures equipment for defense contracts, including the fabrication of ramps for cargo planes for the Air Force.

"Sophisticated fabrication is required," Ueland said, which is why they are seeking an \$82,500 Workforce Training Grant from the state to train 11 new employees at its Anaconda plant. "We will need welders, machinists and supervisors."

ITB, which currently employs 14 people, is investing \$1 million in its operation in Anaconda, he said.

The state-funded grant requires ITB to match \$1 for every \$3 in grant money or \$27,500.

ITB's total payroll is about \$535,000, according to their grant application.

County commissioners will vote the grant application at their work session Tuesday, Nov. 21. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held in the courtroom on the third floor of the courthouse.

For more information, call Jim Davison at 563-5538.